

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08333 031519Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 OES-03

COME-00 BIB-01 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EB-07 OIC-02 /087 W

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P 031508Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1602

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08333

E.O. 6DS

TAGS: TSPA, UN

SUBJ: INITIATIVES AT UN OUTER SPACE MEETING IN NEW YORK

REF: STATE 121247

1. WE DISCUSSED CONTENTS REFTEL WITH MELLON, HEAD, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPT, FCO AND WITH FEARN AND BULL ON HIS STAFF. THEY SAID UK PLANNED NO INITIATIVES ON ISSUES DESCRIBED REFTEL AT OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING AND THEY NOT AWARE OF ANY INITIATIVES PLANNED BY OTHERS. BULL, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MOSCOW, SAID KOLOSOV (SOVIET FOREIGN OFFICE) HAD RECENTLY TOLD HIM THAT SOVIET HAVE LOST INTEREST IN POSSIBILITY OF A MOON TREATY.

2. UK IS CONCERNED BY LIKLIHOOD OF PROPOSALS TO EXPAND MEMBERSHIP OF OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE. BULL SAID IF, AS APPEARS LIKELY, BELGIANS, TURKS AND SPANISH PRESS FOR MEMBERSHIP, OTHER REGIONS WILL WANT TO MATCH EUROPEANS AND COMMITTEE WOULD BECOME UNWIELDY. BRITISH DO NOT KNOW HOW TO HEAD THIS PROBLEM OFF BUT SUGGEST THAT US AND UK DELEGATIONS KEEP IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH ON THIS ISSUE. SPIERS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, MEETING AGENDA, REMOTE SENSING, SPACE PROGRAMS, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON08333
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750193-0884
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750687/aaaadbnd.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 121247
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INITIATIVES AT UN OUTER SPACE MEETING IN NEW YORK
TAGS: TSPA, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006